

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HB 2516 - SB 2525**

February 12, 2022

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Creates the Tennessee Flood Resilience and Community Preparedness Task Force. Such Task Force shall be composed of 15 members, including four legislative members, seven representatives of executive branch agencies, and four public members.

Requires the Task Force to meet no less than quarterly. Authorizes the task force to conduct regular or special meetings by electronic or other means.

Specifies that Task Force members shall receive no compensation for their services on the Task Force, but shall receive reimbursement for expenses incurred in attending meetings of the Task Force, including travel expenses.

Requires the Office of the Governor, or the Governor's designee to provide administrative support services to such Task Force.

Establishes the agenda of the Task Force, including creation of the Statewide Flood Risk Reduction and Resilience Plan (Plan).

Creates the Flood Resilience Reserve Fund (Fund) within the State Treasury. Such fund consists of moneys appropriated to the fund by the General Assembly, which only may be used to develop, implement, and maintain the Plan. Requires that interest accrued by the Fund and any unexpended moneys within the Fund be carried forward, to be used for such aforementioned purposes. Authorizes the Fund to provide financial assistance to state and local government entities, a river basin authority, a development district, or a non-profit entity related to reducing the long-term costs of flood-related disasters.

Attaches this Task Force to the Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) for administrative, fiscal, and personnel purposes only, and is to operationally independent from the Department.

Requires the Task Force to appear before the Government Operations Committee of the House of Representatives, the Government Operations Committee of the Senate, the Speakers of the House of Representatives and Senate, respectively, TACIR, and the Commissioner of the Department of Environment and Conservation, no later than July 1, 2024.

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## **FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures - \$243,000/FY22-23**

**\$237,700/FY23-24**

**\$230,300/FY24-25 and Subsequent Years**

**Other Fiscal Impact – This legislation creates the Flood Resiliency Reserve Fund, which shall be funded through appropriation of the General Assembly. Due to multiple unknown variables, any amount of appropriation that may be made by the General Assembly cannot be reasonably quantified at this time. Additionally, if such funds are appropriated, state and local government entities, as well as non-profit entities, may receive funding out this Fund to expend on reducing long-term costs of flood-related disasters. Any funds or expenditures to be received or incurred in the future by state and local government entities cannot be reasonably quantified at this time.**

### **Assumptions:**

- The Task Force will meet quarterly from July, 2022 through June, 2024, or 4 meetings each in FY22-23 and FY23-24.
- The Task Force will be composed of 4 legislative members, 7 representatives of executive branch agencies, and 4 public members.
- Task Force members shall receive no compensation for their services on the Task Force, but shall receive reimbursement for expenses incurred in attending meetings of the Task Force, including travel expenses.
- Such reimbursement will equal \$0.47 per mile roundtrip; the average miles traveled per member is estimated to be 275 miles roundtrip, resulting mileage reimbursement per meeting of \$129.25 (\$0.47 x 275).
- Legislative members are assumed to be eligible for per diem of \$313 per meeting.
- The General Assembly will be in session at the time of one quarterly Task Force meeting in each of FY22-23 and FY23-24; therefore, it is assumed the 4 legislative members will attend those meetings in the course of regular business, thereby receiving no per diem or mileage reimbursement for attendance at such meetings.
- The cost per public member, for each meeting, is estimated to be \$129.25 for mileage.
- The cost per legislative member, for each meeting attended when the General Assembly is not in session, is \$442.25 (\$313 per diem + \$129.25 mileage).
- Executive branch members, who are presumed to reside in Nashville, will attend meetings during the course of their regular business and will receive no reimbursement of expenses.
- An increase in state expenditures in each, FY22-23 and FY23-24, of \$7,375 [(4 public members x \$129.25 x 4 meetings) + (4 legislative members x \$442.25 x 3 meetings)].
- This legislation attaches this Task Force to TDEC for administrative, fiscal, and personnel purposes.
- TDEC will require two additional positions, one senior advisor and one environmental consultant to meet the requirements of this legislation.

- There will be a recurring increase in state expenditures of \$230,342  $\{[(\$118,302 \text{ salary} + \$26,576 \text{ benefits}) \times 1 \text{ Senior Advisor position} + \$200 \text{ supplies}] + [(\$67,008 \text{ salary} + \$18,056 \text{ benefits}) \times 1 \text{ Environmental Consultant position} + \$200 \text{ supplies}]\}$  in FY22-23 subsequent years.
- There will be one-time expenditures associated with these positions of \$5,240 (\$2,000 computers + \$3,240 network). A total increase in state expenditures in FY22-23 of \$242,957 (\$7,375 + \$230,342 + \$5,240).
- A total increase in state expenditures in FY23-24 of \$237,717 (\$7,375 + \$230,342).
- A recurring increase in state expenditures in FY24-25 and subsequent years of \$230,342.
- This legislation creates the Flood Resiliency Reserve Fund, which is to be funded through appropriation of the General Assembly.
- Any amount appropriated for such Fund, for the purposes aforementioned, cannot be reasonably quantified at this time.
- Additionally, if such funds are appropriated, state and local government entities, as well as non-profit entities, may receive funding out this Fund to expend on reducing long-term costs of flood-related disasters. Any funds or expenditures to be, respectively, received or incurred in the future by state and local government entities cannot be reasonably quantified at this time.

## **CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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